



Christmas shopping time is here with the beginning of the MAMBO campaign for 2006!

November 15 is the day to mark on your calendar to start your Christmas shopping, as the Association of Merchants for a Better Mainstreet (MAMBO) officially began their Christmas Campaign 2006. Dozens of stores in Oranjestad, offering anything anyone could be looking for as a holiday gift are participating in this end of year campaign with spectacular prizes. The expenditure of each twenty-five Aruban florins in any of these quality merchants will earn the buyer a raffle ticket making them eligible to win the grand prize of a fully equipped Nissan Platina from Topcar.

During a press conference at the Coffee Break snack shop on Caya Betico Croes, MAMBO board members Audrey Croes-Lacle, Frank Thielman and Edwina Vis announced the official beginning of the campaign.

Participating stores for the MAMBO campaign this year are Adams, the Aruba Trading Company Retail Store, Benetton, Blue Horizon, Boekhandel Mariska, all branches of B.J. Arends in Oranjestad, Checkpoint Color, Coffee Break, Donna, Dewit Book & Gift Store, Ecco, First Class Design, Fuji Image, General Travel Bureau, Hugo Boss, Ladies Choice, La Linda Ladies Department, Lucor Jewelers, Maggy's, Mrs. Minute, Optica Oduber & Kan, Panache, Perfume Palace, Sagar I & II, San Marina, Sensations, Super Shopping, Wulfsen & Wulfsen, & XOXO. This year's list includes a number of new participants. Board members were proud to welcome SETAR, N.V., which not only is providing cell phones as prizes, but also will issue raffle tickets with the purchase of a cell phone as a gift. Valero station Oranjestad will also issue raffle tickets with each purchase of twenty-five florins of gasoline. Additionally participating is El Gaucho Restaurant. MAMBO also offered thanks to Tiara Air, which is providing tickets to Curacao and Punto Fijo as prizes during the campaign. All the participating shops have a box positioned in their store for depositing the raffle tickets.

During the Tuesday press conference, the MAMBO board also announced the shopping days for the month of December when the Caya Betico Croes will be closed to vehicular traffic. Beginning with Saturday, December 2, shoppers can enjoy the town being turned into a pedestrian mall on the consecutive Saturday's through December 23. Each weekend there will be holiday festivities traditional to the season and sidewalk sales offering excellent bargains. December 2 will also be a Sinterklaas celebration, with a visit at 3 PM of Sinterklaas and his Zwarte Piet for the children.

Oranjestad is dressing for the holidays, and each Saturday in December will offer shopping and holiday cheer for the entire family, plus the possibility of a wonderful surprise for the New Year, thanks to the MAMBO members!